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THE RESEARCH MEMORANDUM

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for the

Bureau of Aeronautics, Navy Department

ACCELERATION MEASUREMENTS DURING LANDINGS OF A  $\frac{1}{5\cdot 5}$ -SIZE DYNAMIC MODEL

OF THE COLUMBIA XJL-1 AMPHIBIAN IN SMOOTH WATER AND IN WAVES -

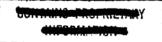
LANGLEY TANK MODEL 208M - TED NO. NACA 2336

Ву

Eugene P. Clement and Robert F. Havens

Langley Memorial Aeronautical Laboratory Langley Field, Va.

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# NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR AEROMAUPICS

#### RESEARCH MEMORANDUM

for the

Bureau of Aeronautics, Navy Department

ACCELERATION MEASUREMENTS DURING LANDINGS OF A  $\frac{1}{5.5}$  GIZE DYNAMIC MODEL

OF THE COLUMBIA XJL-1 AMPHIBIAN IN SMOOTH WATER AND IN WAVES --

LANCIEY TANK MODEL 208M - TED NO. NACA 2336

By Eugene P. Clement and Robert F. Havens

#### SUMMARY

A 5.5-size powered dynamic model of the Columbia KJL-1 amphibian was landed in Langley tank no. 1 in smooth water and in oncoming waves of heights from 2.1 feet to 6.4 feet (full-size) and lengths from 50 feet to 264 feet (full-size).

The motions and the vertical accelerations of the model were continuously recorded. The greatest vertical acceleration measured during the smooth-water landings was 3.1g. During landings in rough water the greatest vertical acceleration measured was 15.4g, for a landing in 6.4-foot by 165-foot waves. The impact accelerations increased with increase in wave height and, in general, decreased with increase in wave length. During the landings in waves the model bounced into the air at stalled attitudes at speeds below flying speed. The model trimmed up to the mechanical trim stop (20°) during landings in waves of heights greater than 2.0 feet. Solid water came over the bow and damaged the propeller during one landing in 6.4-foot waves. The vertical acceleration coefficients at first impact from the tank tests of a 5.5-size model were in fair agreement with data obtained at the Langley impact basin during tests of a 2-size model of the hull.

#### INTRODUCTION

The Columbia XJL-1 airplane is a single-engine amphibian with a design gross load of 13,000 pounds and a wing loading of 31.5 pounds per square foot. This airplane is designed for use by the Navy in air-sea rescue operations, and therefore must be seaworthy and:

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Tests have been made of a 1.5.5 size powered dynamic model of the KJL-1 in Langley tank no. 1 to determine the take-off and landing stability and the spray characteristics in smooth water. The results of these tests are described in reference 1. The present tests were made to measure the accelerations experienced by the model during landings in smooth water and in waves, and to determine the landing behavior in rough water. The model was landed in oncoming waves of heights from 2.1 feet to 6.4 feet (full-size) and lengths from 50 feet to 264 feet (full-size). Vertical accelerations were measured, but attempts to measure the horizontal and angular accelerations were not successful because of failure of the instruments. The vertical accelerations experienced by the model when it was dropped into the water at zero forward speed and the static displacement properties were also determined.

These tests were requested by the Bureau of Aeronautics, Navy Department.

#### THE MODEL

The model (Langley tank model 200M) was a  $\frac{1}{5.5}$  size powered dynamic model designed and constructed by the Columbia Aircraft Corporation. The general arrangement is shown in figure 1 and the principal dimensions of the model and full-size aircraft are given in table I. The body plan of the hull is shown in figure 2. A detailed description of the model is given in reference 1.

The horizontal tail was not to scale, the area having been increased 27.5 percent over the corresponding full-size value to obtain adequate aerodynamic longitudinal stability for the model. This increase was accomplished by the addition of panels of the same airfoil section to the tips of the stabilizer, as shown in figure 1.

In order to provide clearance between model and towing gear, the propeller diameter was 3.4 inches less than that corresponding to full-size. Slats were attached to the leading edge of the wing to delay the stell and to increase the maximum lift coefficient.

The gross weight of the model was 77.4 pounds, corresponding to the full-size maximum design load of 13,000 pounds. The center of gravity for all of these tests was at 28-percent mean serodynamic chord and the flaps were set at 45°. Static thrust used in the landing investigation was 15 pounds (approximately one-half static

thrust used for take-off investigation). The pitching moment of inertia about the center of gravity was 4.9 slug-feet, which is approximately 25 percent greater than that corresponding to the full-size.

#### APPARATUS AND PROCEDURE

The towing gear used in these tests is similar to that described in reference 2, and the instrumentation and general test procedure are described in reference 3. Trim was measured as the angle between the forebody keel at the step and the horizontal. The specific weight of the water in the tank was 63.4 pounds per cubic foot for these tests.

Landings were made at various trims and flight-path angles in smooth water and in oncoming waves of several lengths and heights (up to and including 6.4 feet, full-size). The fore and aft freedom of the towing gear (reference 3) allowed the model to check in waves so that it was practically free of longitudinal restraint during that part of the run-out which was of most interest. The model had freedom in trim from -12° to approximately 20°. Freedom in rise was adequate to prevent interference of the rise stop with the motion of the model.

The landings were made by decelerating the carriage from a speed above the landing speed of the model. The rate of deceleration during landing and run-out was approximately 3 feet per second per second. The trim was set in the air by means of the elevators; and since the trim decreased as the model approached the water, it was necessary to set the trim in the air several degrees higher than the desired landing trim. The deflection of the elevators was not changed during the run-out. The model speeds, at contact, corresponded to full-size speeds between 52 and 71 miles per hour.

The instruments described in reference 3 were used to record the results of the tests. Time histories of vertical acceleration, trim, rise, horizontal displacement, and horizontal velocity of the model were obtained. Metal contacts on the keel of the model, at the bow, step, and sternpost were used to record electrically the instant of landing contact. The location of the bow contact is shown in figure 1.

An inductance-type accelerometer, which was attached to the towing staff, was used to measure the vertical accelerations. This accelerometer, which is described in reference 3, had a natural frequency of about 70 cycles per second and was magnetically damped to about 0.7 of the critical value.

The waves were generated in the manner described by reference 3. The length and regularity of the waves were determined by means of two streamlined struts which extended vertically into the water from the towing carriage. The struts were located about 17 feet apart in the longitudinal direction. The relative wave height at each of the struts was electrically recorded, and from the records the wave lengths could be determined.

The static displacement properties of the model were determined by loading the model with a series of weights and moments and noting the trim and draft for each condition. The moments were measured with respect to the pivot (located at 28-percent mean aerodynamic chord) and draft was taken as the vertical displacement of the pivot from its position when the forebody keel was parallel to and just touching the still-water surface.

The drop test consisted of dropping the model into the water at zero forward velocity from two heights of the pivot above the water and at several trims. The motions and accelerations were recorded with the same instruments used in the landings. The model was restrained in the fore and aft position but was free to rise and trim. Drops were made from pivot heights above the water of 20.36 inches and 27.28 inches, respectively. At zero trim, these pivot heights corresponded to keel heights above the water of 6.92 inches (1/2 beam) and 13.84 inches (1 beam). Data were obtained at contact trims from -1.00 to 15.40.

#### PRECISION OF DATA

The data presented are believed to have the following over-all accuracy:

Trim, degree																	
Landing speed, foot per second	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	٠	. ±1
Flight-path angle, degree	•			•	•	•		•		•	•	•					±0.2
Vertical acceleration	•			•				÷	1	:()	0	pe	r	:01	ıt	+	0.2g

#### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

All values in the tables and graphs are full-scale values. The following symbols are used:

- acceleration of gravity, 32.2 feet per second per second
- n<sub>v</sub> vertical acceleration, g

g

- V<sub>h</sub> horizontal velocity (carriage speed), feet per second
- 7 flight-path angle, degrees
- trim (angle between forebody keel at step and the horizontal), degrees

The results of the smooth-water landing tests are presented in table II. The flight-path angle, horizontal velocity, and trim were determined for the instant the model touched the water. The maximum vertical accelerations occurred on initial impact for all except one landing. For the landing at O<sup>O</sup> trim the model skipped one time and the maximum vertical acceleration occurred on the second impact. The greatest value of vertical acceleration obtained, 3.1g, occurred during this landing.

Time histories of two of the landings in waves are shown in figure 3. The results of all the rough-water landings are given in table III. Flight-path angle, horizontal velocity, and trim were determined for the instant of first contact and for the subsequent contact which produced the maximum vertical acceleration. The model invariably bounced clear of the water several times during each landing in waves and thus experienced a series of impacts of varying magnitude. In each case, the maximum vertical acceleration occurred at some impact from the first to the twelfth. The bounces were generally accompanied by large increases in trim, the model attaining a stalled attitude at speeds considerably below flying speed. Table III gives the maximum trim for each landing. The model trimmed up to the machanical trim stop (20°) during approximately half the landings in 3.4-foot waves and during most of the landings in 4.6-foot and 6.4-foot waves.

Figure 4 is a plot of maximum vertical accelerations against wave lengths for the different wave heights. In general, these accelerations decreased with increase in wave length. The accelerations increased rapidly with increase in wave height. The greatest vertical acceleration measured during the tests was 15.4g, and was obtained during a landing in 6.4-foot by 165-foot waves.

Some of the rough-water landings were quite violent and resulted in structural damage to the model. During the landings in 4.6-foot by 110-foot waves the motions of the model were particularly violent and heavy spray struck the flaps and horizontal tail. Of the four landings made in these waves, three resulted in failure of the horizontal tail surfaces. During a landing in 6.4-foot by 138-foot waves,

water came over the bow and bent the tips of the propeller blades. Figure 5 is a photograph of the damage resulting from this landing.

No attempt was made to control the position on the wave profile at which the initial contact with the wave occurred. Consequently, the values of the impact accelerations on initial contact varied widely and landings on the wave crests gave lowest values. No correlation of the values of subsequent accelerations with initial landing conditions was possible.

The results of tests of a  $\frac{1}{2}$  size model of the hull of this sircraft in the Langley impact basin are described in reference 4. Results from the free-to-trim test of reference 4 are presented in table IV for comparison with vertical accelerations at initial impact obtained in the tests of Langley tank model 208M. The impactbasin data were taken in smooth water and in 120-foot waves of varying heights, at speeds corresponding to a full-size landing speed of 86 miles per hour. The accelerations presented are those which were measured at initial impact. The landings of the dynamic model 200M were made with one-half take-off thrust and with flaps deflected 450. The model speeds, at contact, corresponded to full-size speeds between 52 and 71 miles per hour. The data from the impact-basin tests and from model 208M tests are plotted in figure 6 in the form of vertical acceleration coefficient versus flight-path angle. It can be seen that the two sets of data are fairly well defined by the same upper envelope curves.

The static properties are presented in figure 7 where trim and draft are plotted against trimming moment for the different loads tested. The results of the drop test are presented in table V. The greatest vertical acceleration obtained from the drop tests was 6.7g for a drop height of 1 beam and a contact trim of -1.00.

#### CONCLUSIONS

- 1. The greatest vertical acceleration encountered during the smooth-water landings was 3.1g.
- 2. The model experienced a number of impacts during each roughwater landing and the maximum vertical acceleration occurred at some impact from the first to the twelfth. The greatest vertical acceleration encountered was 15.4g for a landing in 6.4-foot by 165-foot waves. The impact accelerations increased with increase in wave height and, in general, decreased with increase in wave length.

- 3. During the landings in waves the model bounced into the air at stalled attitudes at speeds below flying speed. The model trimmed up to the mechanical trim stop (20°) during landings in waves of heights greater than 2.1 feet.
- 4. Solid water came over the bow during one landing in 6.4-foot by 138-foot waves and damaged the propeller.
- 5. A comparison of the vertical acceleration coefficients at first impact from the tank tests of a  $\frac{1}{5.5}$ -size model and from impactbasin tests of a  $\frac{1}{2}$ -size model of the hull showed that the upper limits of the two sets of data are in fair agreement.

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National Advisory Committee for Aeronautica
Langley Field, Va.

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Englis P. Charley

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Approved:

John B. Parkinson

Chief of Hydrodynamics Division

ESY

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TABLE I

# comparison of principal dimensions of $\frac{1}{5.5}$ -size dynamic model

# AND FULL-SIZE COLUMBIA XJL-1 AIRPLANE

•	Model 208M	Full-size
w 44.		
Hull:		
Beem, including plating projecting from	30 Gl.	75.0
chines, in	. 13.84	76-0
Lengths parallel to straight portion of		
forebody keel, in-	1.2 60	
Forebody, bow to centroid of step · · · ·		229.3
Afterbody, centroid of step to sternpost	. 36.27	199.5
Tail extension, sternpost to trailing	-0-0	***
edge of rudder	18.18	100.0
Over all, how to trailing edge of rudder	96-14	528.8
Depth of step (plan form 450 vee), in-		
At keel	. 1.14	6-27
At centroid		5.11
At chine	1.44	7,98
Angle of forebody keel relative to base		
line, deg	· -5.0	<del>-</del> 5.0
Angle of afterbody keel relative to base		
. lins, deg	. 12:5	<b>12.</b> 5
Angle between keels, deg	. 7.5	7-5
Angle of dead rise of forebody at step, deg		
Excluding chine flare		20.0
Including chine flare		13-5
Angle of dead rise of afterbody, deg		
Step at station 233	24.0	#24.0
Maximum at station 315		29.5
At sternpost	20.0	20.0
Wing:	-	
Area, sq ft	· 13.65	413.0
Span, ft		50.0
Root chord (section NACA 4418), in	20.0	110.0
Tip chord (section NACA 4412), in		66-0
Angle of wing setting, deg	-	00-0
Reference to base line	4.0	4.0
Reference to forebody keel	9.0	9.0
Mean aerodynamic chord, M.A.C., in.		101.17
Leading-edge M.A.C. parallel to base line	الرو دېږيد	
Aft of boy, in	32.02	176.1
Below thrust line, in		/15.5
Flap setting, deg	- 24-06	, 200
Take-off	AE .	
:	• 30	
Lending	* <del>4</del> 7 ·	

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# TABLE I - Concluded

comparison of principal dimensions of  $\frac{1}{5.5}$  size dynamic model - concluded

	Model 208M	Full-size
Horizontal tail:	. <u>.</u> .	
Span, ft	· <sup>2</sup> 4.64	20.0
Chord (section NACA 0012), ft	. 0.91	5.0
Area, stabilizer, sq ft	. 82.94	61.3
Area, elevator, sq ft	•	38.7
Total area, sq ft		100.0
Angle of stabilizer to base line, deg		-2.0
Vertical tail:		•
Total area (section NACA 0012), sq ft	1.25	38.2
Propeller:	•	•
Blades	3	3
Diemeter, ft	a <sub>1.62</sub>	10.5
Angle of thrust line to base line, deg	, jo	0
Thrust line above keel at centroid of step		
perpendicular to base line, in	17.4	208.8
Static effective thrust for landing, lb		
Loading conditions:		
Maximum design load, lb	77.4	13,000
Center of gravity (28-percent M.A.C.)		- •
Forward of centroid of step parallel to	•	
straight portion of forebody keel, in-	3.94	21.7
Above forebody keel perpendicular to	<del>-</del> '	
straight portion of forebody		
keel, in	13.44	74.0
Pitching moment of inertia, slug-ft <sup>2</sup>	ā4.9	19,400

<sup>a</sup>These values not to scale.

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TABLE II

## MARINUM VERTICAL ACCELERATIONS DURING LANDINGS IN SMOOTH WATER

[All values are full-scale]

		Mariman		
Landing no.	γ (deg)	V <sub>h</sub> (fps)	(deg)	(g)
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	3.6 3.6 2.8 2.1 3.1 5.1 5.3 5.4 5.3 8	79 81 87 80 100 98 95 96 104 91	4.0 12.0 10.6 12.2 9.9 .7 6.0 3.0 0	1.2 1.4 1.5 2.8 1.8 1.8 1.2 83.1

Maximum  $n_{\psi}$  occurred after one skip (second impact).

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# MAXIMUM VERTICAL ACCELERATIONS DURING LANDINGS IN VAVES

# [All values are full-scale]

anding	Wave	¥a7e	F	irst conte	et	Contact for maximum n.			Marinum	Maximum
20.	height (ft)	length (ft)	7 (deg)	(fps)	r (deg)	7 (deg)	Yh (fpe)	(deg)	(e)	(dog)
111111111111111111111111111111111111111	11111111111111111111111111111111111111	222 22 22 22 22 22 22 22 22 22 22 22 22	\$379505806396954408080608564497765843056505050385088 + 3 30 + 5508400834 - 1 + 4 + 863 + 8 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1	\$	10.70.02 10.70.02 10.70.03 10.70.	2.61.7.69.2.50.00.7.3.2.10.5.00.00.7.3.2.10.5.00.00.7.3.2.10.5.00.00.7.3.2.10.5.00.00.7.3.2.10.5.00.00.7.3.2.10.5.00.00.7.3.2.10.5.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.	& Tot Particus to the terminate of the states of the state	7.94 9.43 10.34 10.35 10.34 10.35 10.3	375768363476364425430713758274346X6556555756655451118279689976897964702761782244155428	15-09 4-8-10-06-17-13-16-08-8-6-2-17-18-6-6-17-18-18-6-6-17-18-18-6-6-17-18-18-6-6-17-18-18-6-6-17-18-18-6-6-17-18-18-6-6-17-18-18-6-6-17-18-18-6-6-18-18-6-18-18-18-18-18-18-18-18-18-18-18-18-18-

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TABLE IV

# VERTICAL ACCELERATIONS AT FIRST IMPACT FROM TANK TESTS

### AND IMPACT-BASIN TESTS

All values are full\_scale

Tank Tests of

Impact-Basin Tests of  $\frac{1}{2}$ -Size Model

(Wave length, 110 ft)

(Wave length, 120 ft)

Landing no.	Wave height (ft)	n <sub>y</sub> (g)	
123456789034567890344567890	000000000000000000000000000000000000000	11.12.11.11.11.22.12.2.13.4.2.3.4.	

Impact no.	Wave height (ft)	7 (deg)	7 (deg)	л <sub>у</sub> (g)
46787488644888448884488	800555556 0000012233335556	2.135.490129180990	77772276.45 1276.45 71.22 1212 1212	1479531997049901 1454 304054356

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## MAXIMUM VERFICAL ACCELERATIONS

# DURING DROP TESTS

# All values are full-scale

At rele	ase	First c	Maximum	
Pivot height (ft)	(đeg)	(fps)	τ (deg)	n <sub>v</sub> (g)
9.33 9.33 9.33 9.33 12.50 12.50 12.50	1.0 6.0 11.0 16.0 1.0 2.0 11.0	11.3 11.6 12.6 8.2 15.2 17.6 15.8	-0.2 5.1 10.3 15.4 -1.0 .6 9.6 14.9	5.1 4.2 2.2 6.7 5.0 2.4

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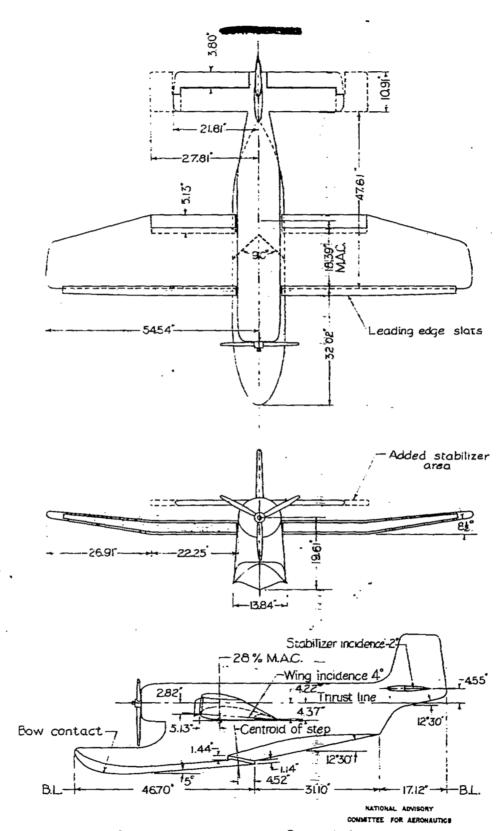
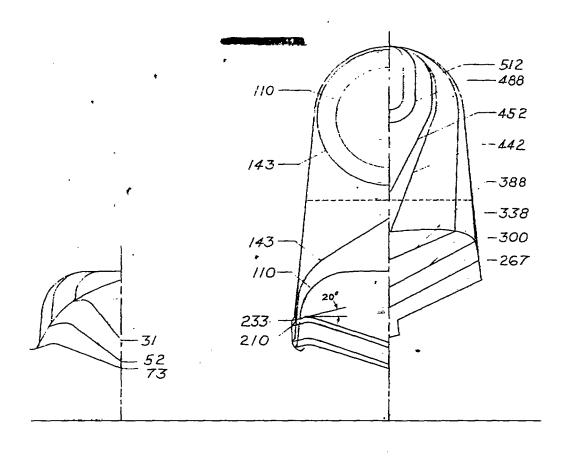


Figure 1.-Model 208M. General Arrangement.





----- PARTING LINES ON MODEL

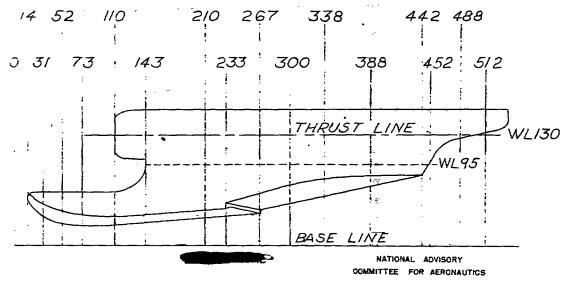
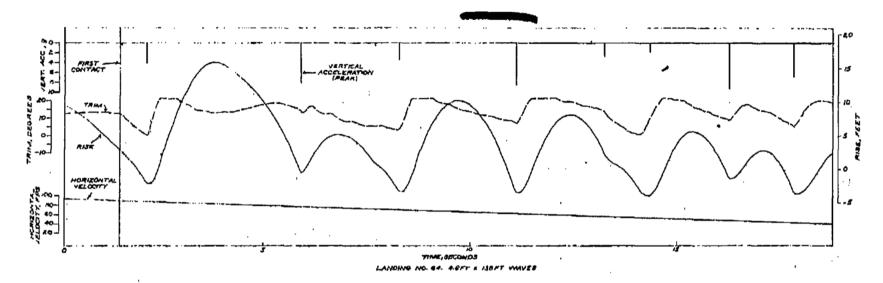


FIGURE 2.- MODEL 208M. BODY PLAN.



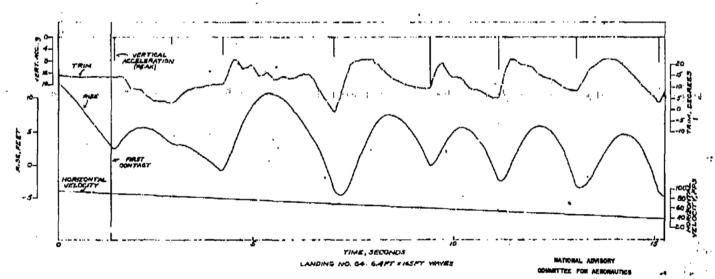
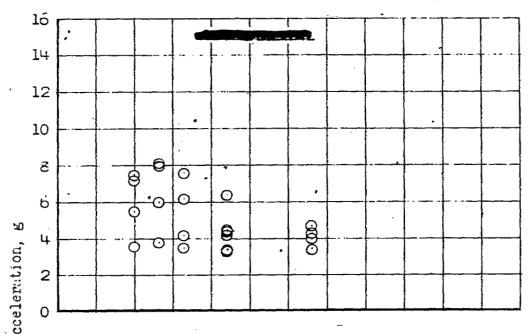


FIGURE A- TIME HISTORIES OF LANDINGS IN WAVES. (ALL VALUES ARE FULL-SIET)





(a) Wave height, 2.1 feet.

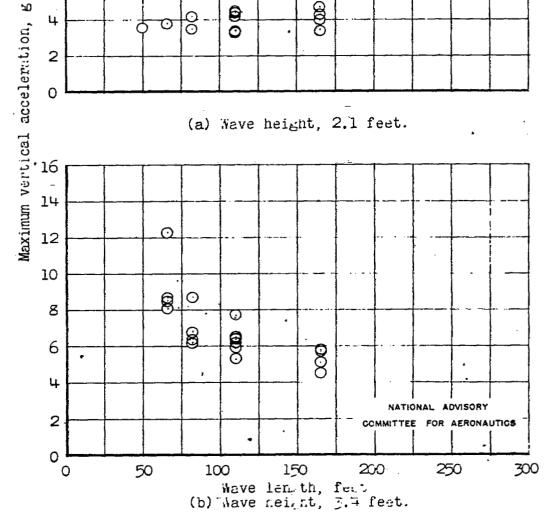
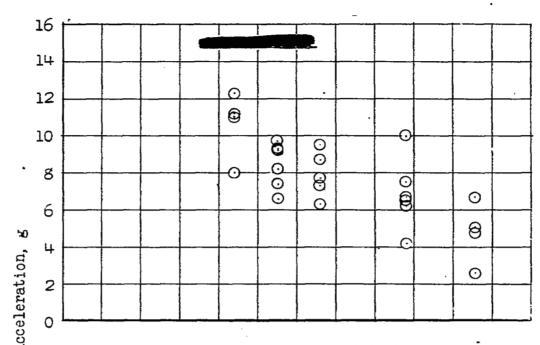


Figure 4.- Maximum vertical accelerations during landings in waves.





(c) Wave height, 4.6 feet. .

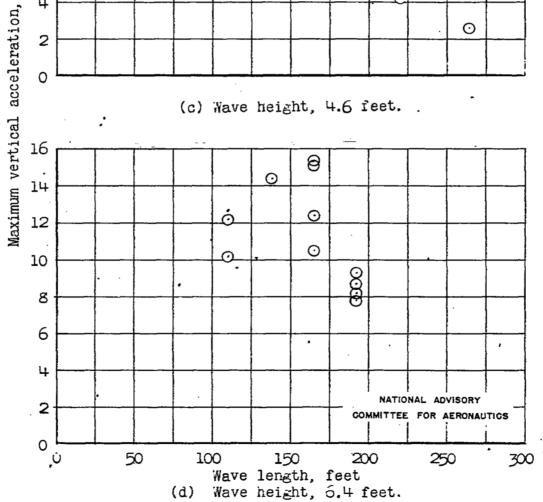


Figure 4.- Concluded.



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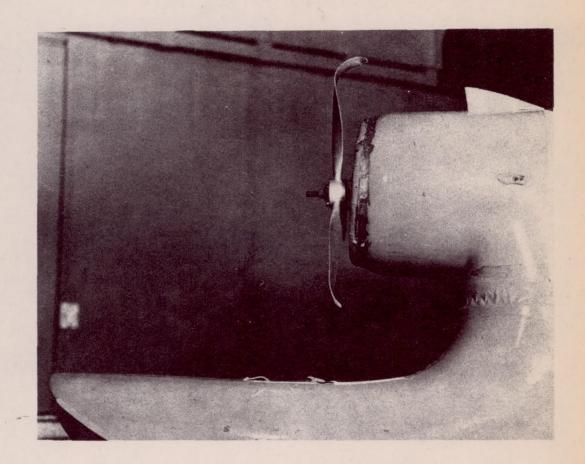
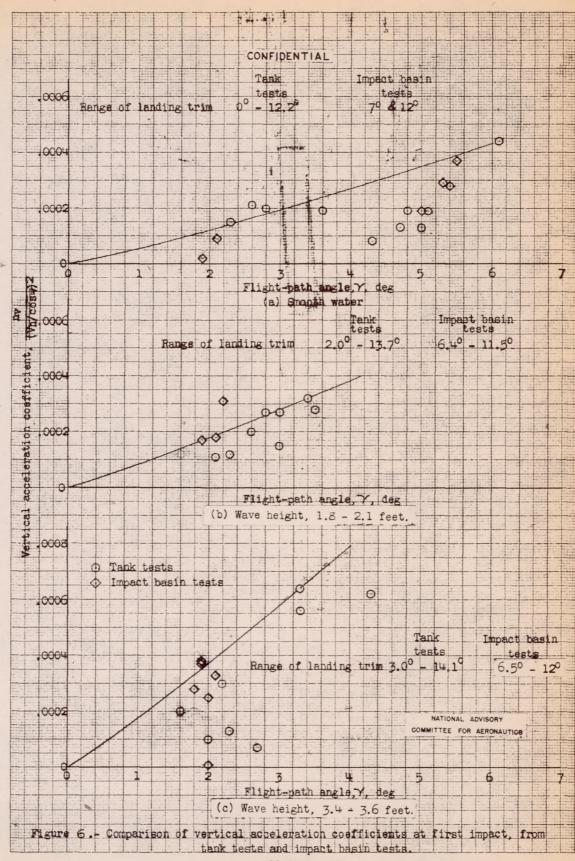


Figure 5.- Damage to propeller during landing in 6.4-foot by 138-foot waves.

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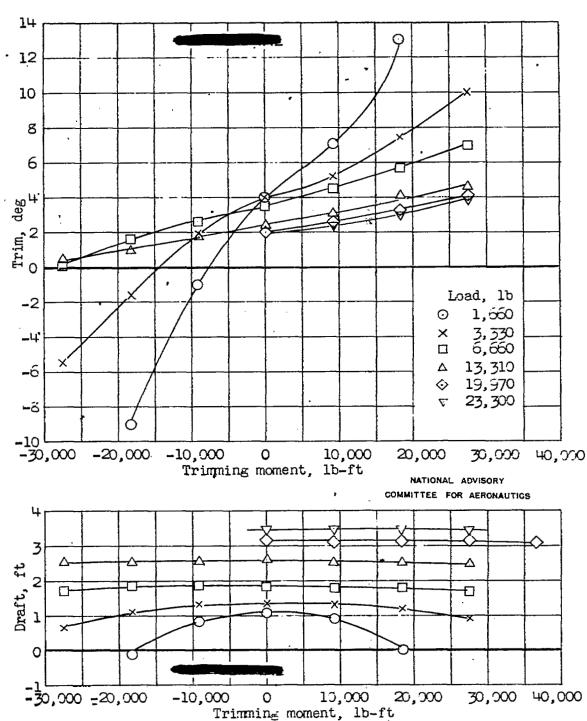


Figure 7.- Static displacement properties.

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